



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

February 14, 2017

The Honorable Ted Gaines
California State Senate
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: SB 9 (Gaines) – as introduced December 5, 2016 - Support

Dear Senator Gaines:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support SB 9, legislation that would repeal the State Responsibility Area (SRA) fee that was adopted as part of the 2011-12 California State Budget. As you know, this fee requires homeowners of habitable structures within an SRA to pay an annual fee for fire prevention services.

Approximately, 100,000 structures in San Bernardino and neighboring Riverside County are located within these areas, subjecting owners of those structures to this fee. In San Bernardino County property owners within the State Responsibility Areas currently pay an assessment for fire protection and prevention services and the imposition of this fee has the effect of double taxation without any additional benefit. Additionally, the fee has raised a number of equity, administrative, legal and logistical issues in our desert and mountain communities.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support SB 9. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Lovingood".

Robert Lovingood
Board of Supervisors Chairman
First District Supervisors
County of San Bernardino

c: San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

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